

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-10 are pending in the application, with Claim 1 being independent. Claims 11-15 have been cancelled herein without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

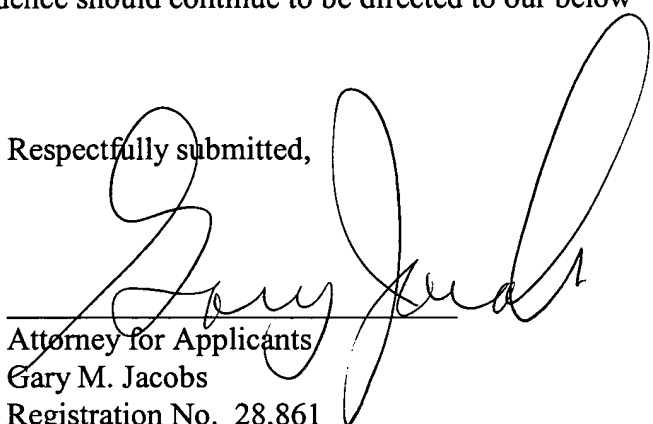
Restriction Requirement

Applicants elect Group I (Claims 1-10) with traverse. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Restriction Requirement for the following reasons.

Applicants submit that all of the claims could be searched by one Examiner without undue effort and a duplicative search by two Examiners may possibly produce inconsistent results. In addition, it is believed that if one Examiner acts on all the claims of the present application, overall examining time will be less than if two Examiners are involved. Further, it is earnestly believed that examination of all of the claims by one Examiner will best ensure that there will be uniform prosecution quality. Therefore, in the interest of prosecution quality and economy for both the Office and Applicants, withdrawal of the restriction requirement in this application is appropriate and is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Gary M. Jacobs
Registration No. 28,861

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
GMJ:ayr

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